

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Integrity - Service - Excellence

Driving Innovation In the U.S. Air Force



**Chris Shank
Briefing to
Aeronautics & Space
Engineering Board**

11 Oct 2017



Findings of the Defense Innovation Board (1/2)

- DoD is unprepared to meet new threats
- DoD is not technologically, organizationally, procedurally, or culturally equipped to outpace our adversaries in the years ahead
- How we got here:
 - DoD no longer dominates technological innovation—the private sector does, and little-known companies are producing the most leading-edge solutions in software development, artificial intelligence, and machine learning
 - DoD processes are not fast or agile enough to put technological solutions in warfighters' hands and meet immediate threats
 - DoD's leadership and grassroots understand the need for change, but the “frozen middle” kills new ideas because it doesn't know how to incorporate them
 - DoD's command structure rewards conformity and avoiding risk—the very concept that undermines the entrepreneurial spirit needed to keep pace with new threats



Defense Innovation Board Findings (2/2)

- Defense Innovation Board found that:
 - Many in DoD want to change, but don't know how to break out of a multi-billion dollar system and infrastructure that is resistant to modification
 - Those who resist change are not unreasonable people, but believe change is too risky to undertake, with uncertain consequences
 - It is far riskier to do nothing or adopt change at the margins because that is a recipe for long-term strategic and technological inadequacy against adversaries that are more agile and free of cumbersome processes
 - Without an exponential (i.e. algorithm-driven) uptick in the speed at which we engage our adversaries, we will be at a significant disadvantage



A black and white portrait of Albert Einstein, showing him from the chest up. He has his characteristic wild, white hair and a mustache. His hands are clasped together in front of him, and he is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a thoughtful expression.

Insanity:

*Doing the same thing over and over again
and expecting different results.*

Albert Einstein



Need for Change is Recognized

- Office of Transformational Innovation created to identify, demonstrate and execute changes within Air Force acquisition processes to deliver better capability, faster and cheaper
 - Bending the Cost Curve (BTCC) Initiative to address the unsustainable escalation in weapon system costs and development times through dialogue with industry, innovative acquisition strategies, and actions
 - OTA v. FAR
 - Acquisition Wargames for Procurement Strategies



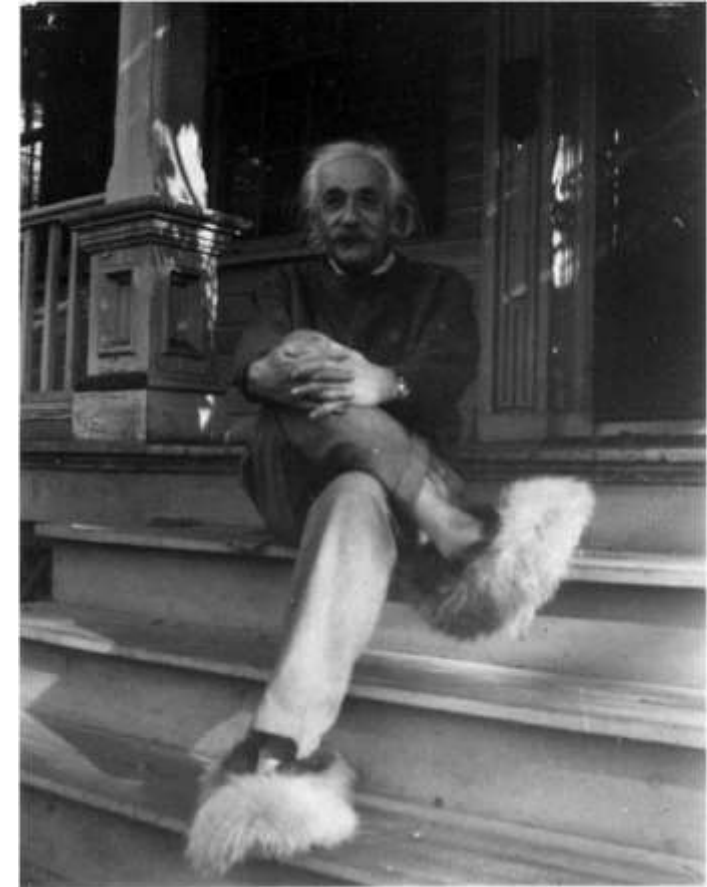
Crawl



Walk



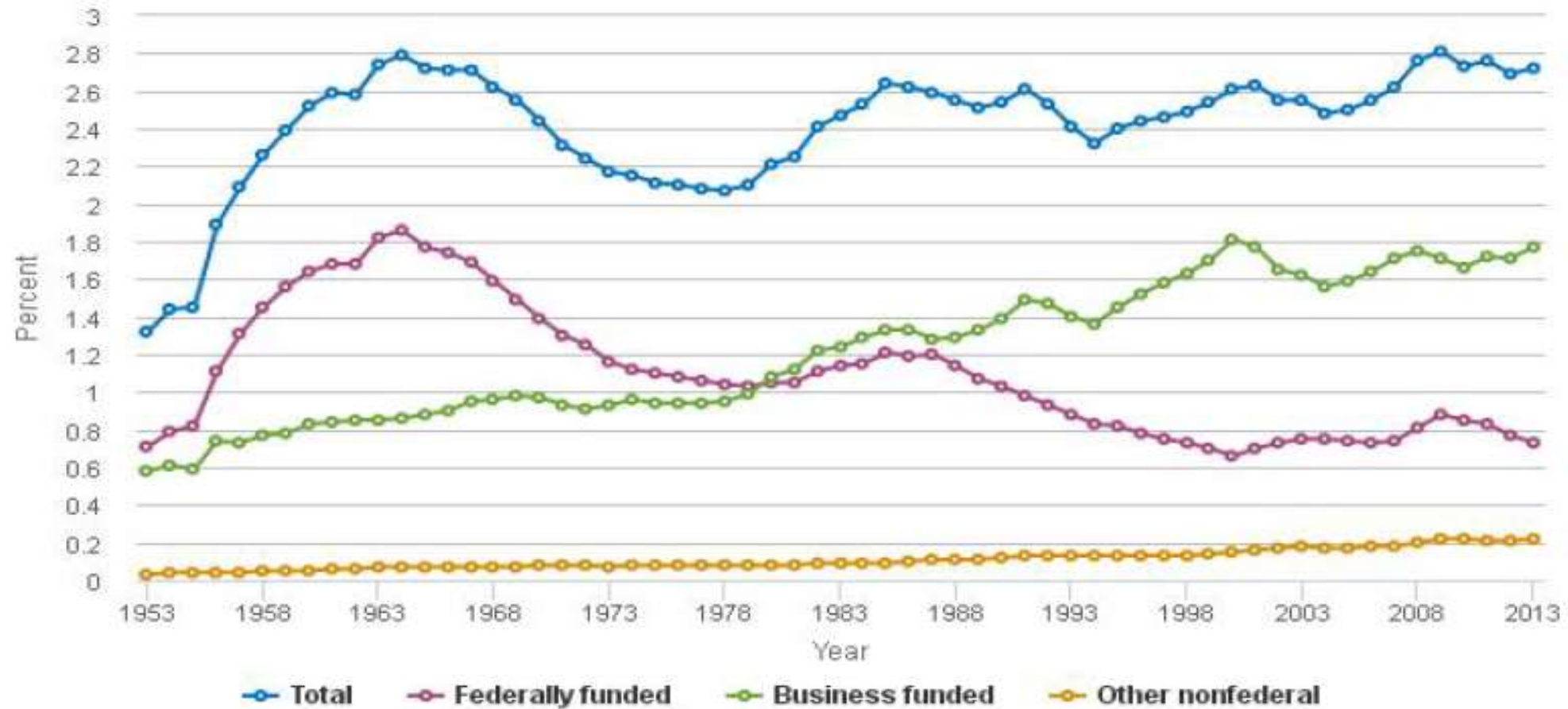
Teleport



***"It is not that I'm so smart.
But I stay with the questions
much longer."***



R&D Funding Trend



Ratio of U.S. R&D to Gross Domestic Product – 1953-2013

Source: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Patterns of R&D Resources (annual series)

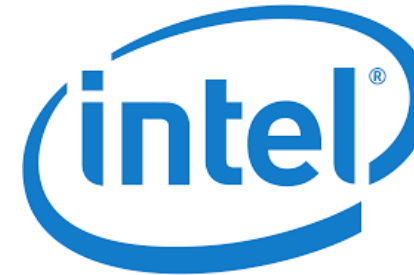


Top 20 Industry R&D Spenders

2016 Global Innovation 1000 Study – Strategy + Business Magazine

2016 Rank	Company	R&D Spend (\$Bn)*
1	Volkswagen	13.2
2	Samsung	12.7
3	Amazon	12.5
4	Alphabet	12.3
5	Intel Co	12.1
6	Microsoft	12
7	Roche	10
8	Novartis	9.5
9	Johnson & Johnson	9
10	Toyota	8.8
11	Apple	8.1
12	Pfizer	7.7
13	General Motors	7.5
14	Merck	6.7
15	Ford	6.7
16	Daimler	6.6
17	Cisco	6.2
18	AstraZeneca	6
19	Bristol-Myers Squibb	5.9
20	Oracle	5.8

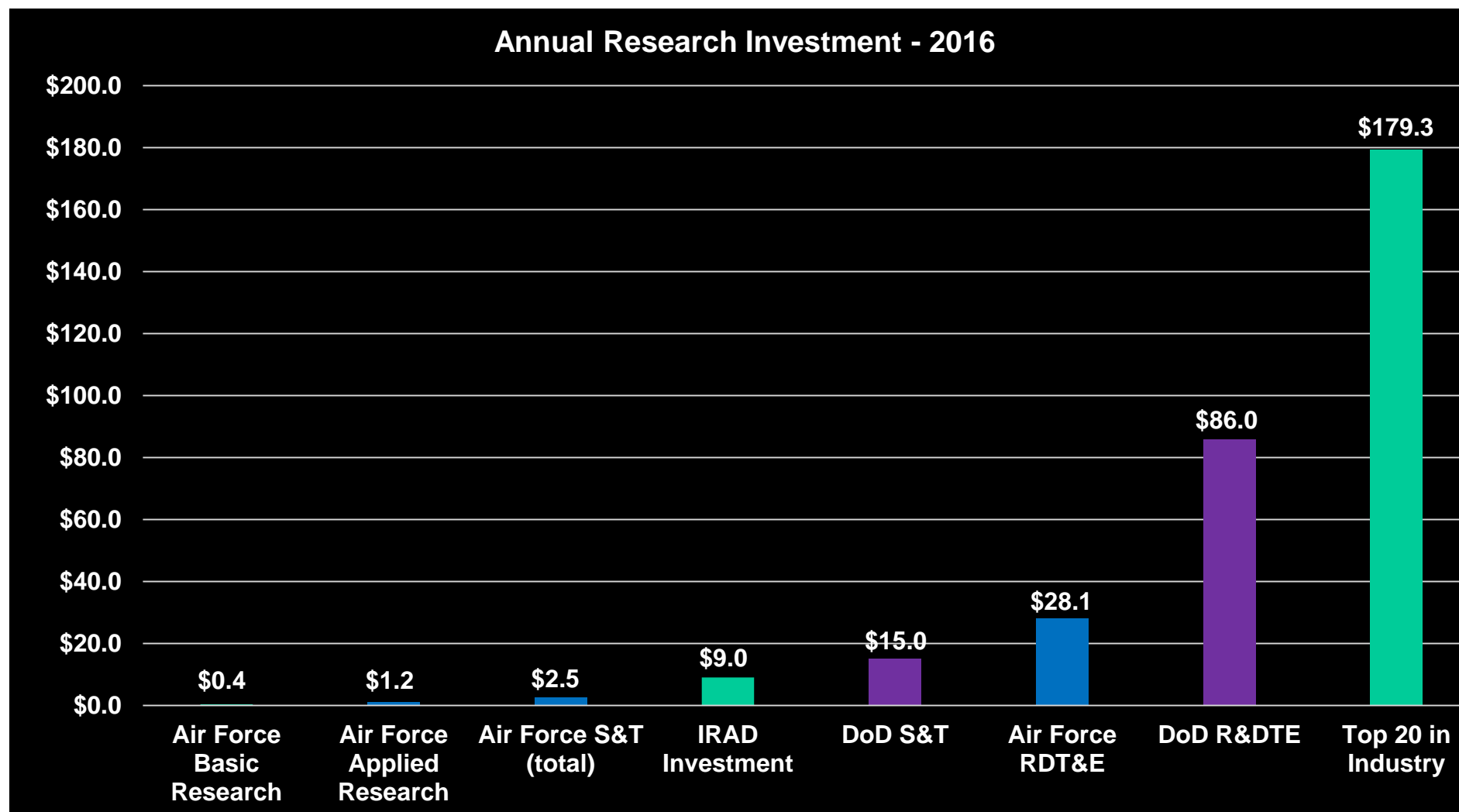
* R&D spend data recent full-year figures reported prior to July 1st.



**Combined just the first seven companies
spend more on R&D than DoD
\$84.8B**



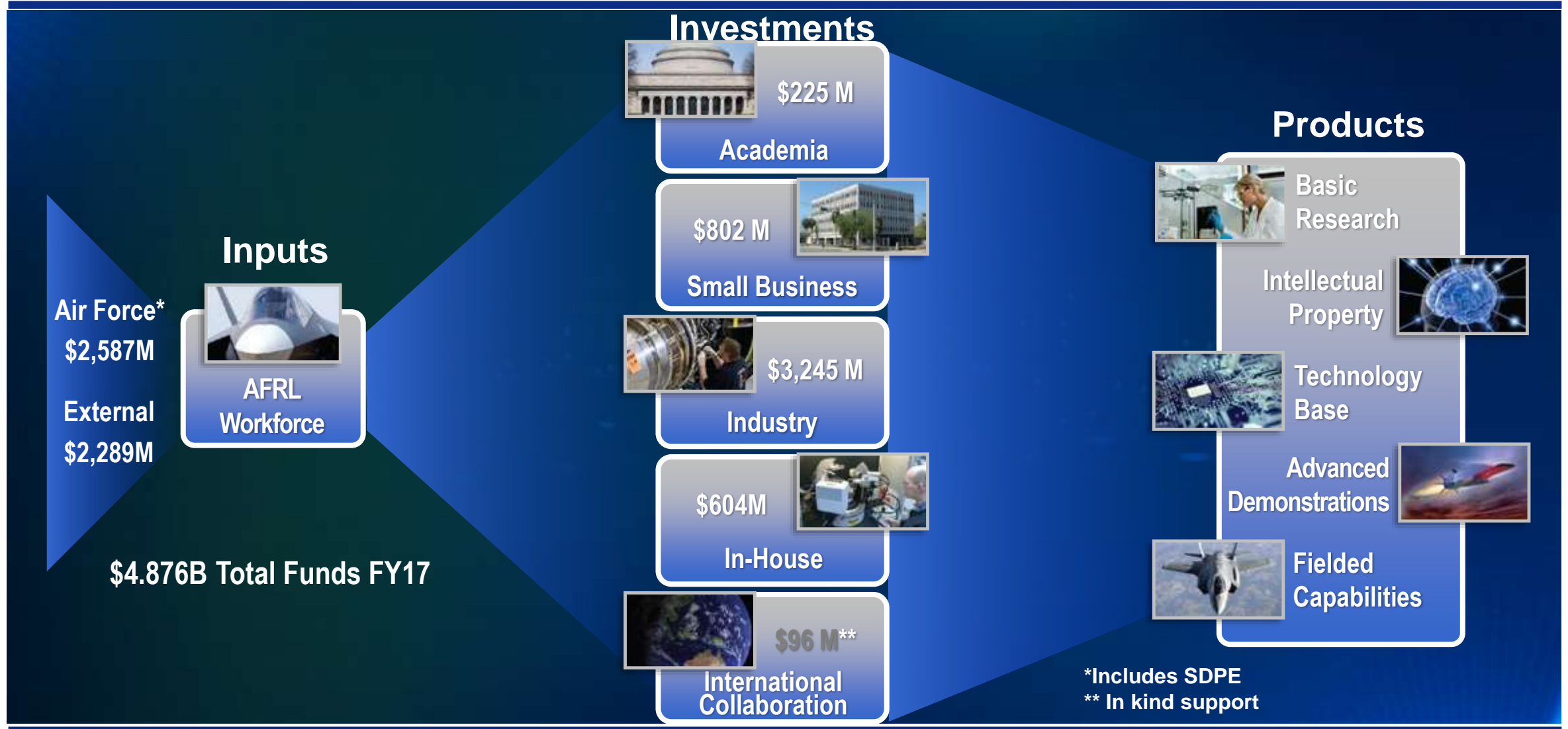
Comparison of R&D Investments



Breaking Barriers ... Since 1947



AFRL S&T Business Model





AFRL: Turning Science into Capability





Game Changers



Hypersonics

- Survivable, fast-flying
- Defeat deep-layered A2/AD strategies



Directed Energy

- High Power Microwave alternative to kinetic weapons
- Lasers with air & ground selectable effects & reduced collateral damage



Autonomy

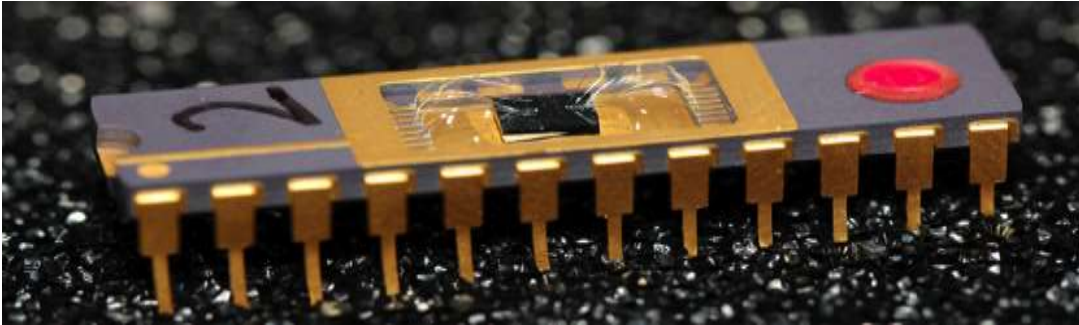
- Decisions at speed of computing
- Self-awareness & troubleshooting intelligence

Quantum Computing, Synthetic Bio, Advanced Additive Manufacturing, Microelectronics, Optimized Human Performance, Neuromorphic Computing, Electronic Warfare, Alternative Navigation, Nano-energetics, Space Based Ops...Others



Other Game Changing Technologies

Neuromorphic Computing



Bio and Life Sciences



Quantum Computing

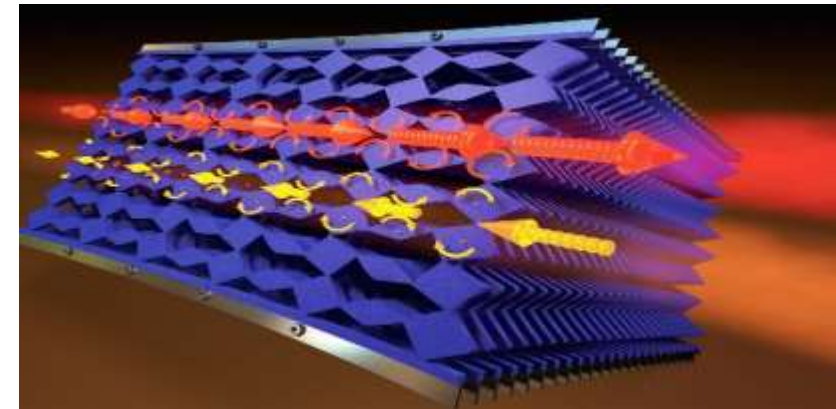


D-wave Machine

Machine Learning



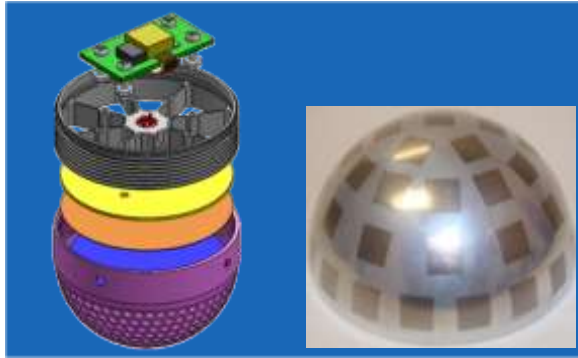
Metamaterials



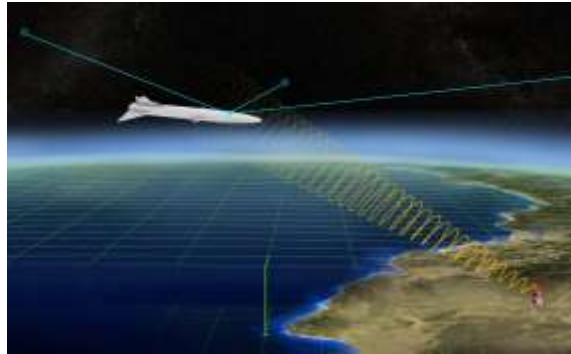


Enabling Future Capabilities

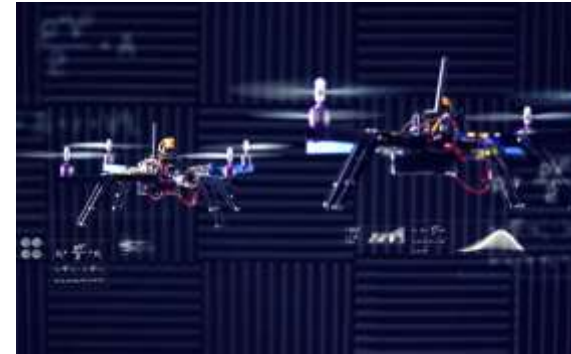
Additive Manufacturing



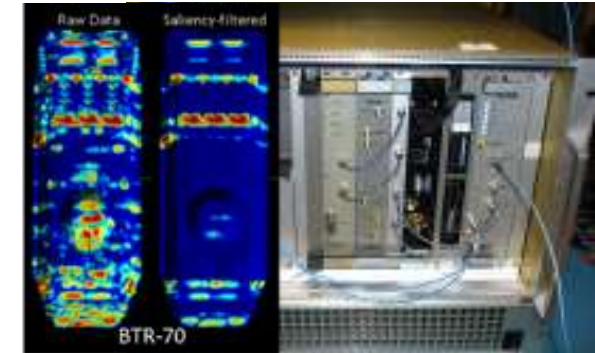
Alternative Navigation



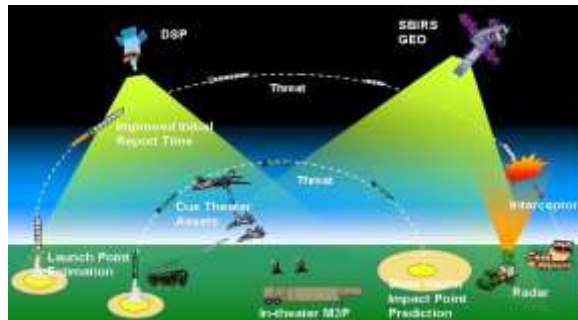
Networked Capabilities



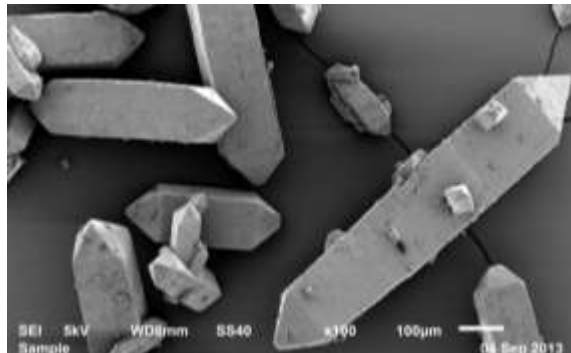
Electronic Warfare



Space



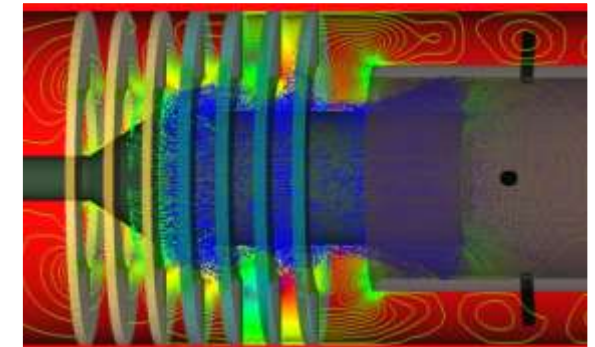
Nano-Energetics



Human Performance



Modeling & Simulation





Questions? Lunch?

